

JUN-06-2005 15:19 From:

To:USPTO

P.3/23

IN THE TITLE

Kindly amend the title as follows:

KICKDOWN CATAMARAN WITH ~~RELIEF TRACKING RUDDER~~

- 2 -

IN TILE SPECIFICATION

1. On page 8, kindly replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 with the following:

A control plate 116 attaches between a tiller ~~24~~ and 24 and the rudder 102. The tiller ~~24~~ is 24 is rigidly attached to the control plate 116 and the rudder 102 is pivotally attached about a second horizontal axis 120 at the rudder proximal, or upper, end 122. So that a pull by the tiller ~~24~~ raises 24 raises the rudder 102, the first horizontal axis 110 is above and forward from the second horizontal axis 120 when the rudder 102 is in its lowered position 112. Thus, an operator can rotate the rudder 102 up by pulling the tiller 118. A hook 124 is provided on the hull stern 122 directed away from the rudder 102 to which the tiller ~~24~~ may 24 may be secured to hold the rudder 102 in its raised position.

2. On page 9, kindly replace the paragraph beginning on line 4 with the following:

The rudder 102 is also free to rotate independent of operator action on the tiller ~~24~~ as 24 as it impacts an object or underwater relief in shallow waters causes the rudder 102 to rotate to avoid damage to it. In doing so, the rudder pivots on both first and second horizontal axes 110 and 120 raising the second horizontal axis 120 and the control plate 116 relative to the first horizontal axis 110 and the mounting plate 106. To accommodate rudder rotation, the tiller 24 comprises a tubular inner member 126 telescoping from a tubular outer member 128 with a spring 130 in the outer member 128 biasing the inner member 126 into the outer member, urging the rudder 102 to its lowered position and accepting rudder rotation as the inner member moves into the outer member against the spring bias.